

# MUSIC BEFORE 1800

Louise Basbas, Director

## Sequentia

### Monks Singing Pagans Medieval songs of heroes, gods and strong women

Benjamin Bagby, director, voice, harps

Hanna Marti, voice, harp; Norbert Rodenkirchen, bone flutes, wooden flutes

#### I. *Woden and Christ: Cohabitation in the Northlands*

Charms and incantations from German and Anglo-Saxon sources (9th - 10th centuries)

Forsahhistu unholdun? (Saxon baptismal oath for pagan converts)

Gang uz, nesso, mid niun nessinchilidon (Old High German charm against disease)

Eiris sazun Idisi / Phol ende Wodan (The "Merseburg Magic Charms")

Wyrm com snican, toslat he man (from the Anglo-Saxon 'Nine Herbs Charm')

Wenne, wenne, wen-chichenne (Anglo-Saxon charm against a boil or cyst)

#### II. *Fortuna and Philosophy*

O varium Fortune lubricum (on the nature of Fortune, Paris, late 12th century)

*Metra* from the *Consolation of Philosophy* of Boethius (d. ca. 526) in musical settings from the *Cambridge Songs* (Canterbury, early 11th century)

Tha waes ricra sum on Rome-byrig (Anglo-Saxon prologue by King Alfred the Great, 9th century)

Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi (Lament of Boethius in prison)

Cum Phoebi radiis grave (Philosophy's reply)

Nubibus atris (Teaching of Philosophy)

#### III. *Cleopatra and Dido: Suicidal Pagan Queens*

Nunc est bibendum (Ode of Horace [65-8 B.C.E.], northern French songbook, late 11th-century)

Vaga (instrumental version of a sequence from the Winchester Troper, 11th century)

O decus, o lybie regnum (Lament of Dido, France, late 12th century; from the *Carmina Burana*)

Stans a longe (instrumental version of a sequence by Notker of St. Gall, 9th century)

#### IV. *Orpheus: the Power of Song*

Felix qui potuit boni (text by Boethius, from a *Cambridge Songs*, early 11th century)

O fons Bandusie (instrumental version of an Ode of Horace, southern French ms., ca. 1100)

Collis erat collemque (from the *Metamorphoses* of Ovid, 43 BCE - 18 AD)

#### V. *Hercules: Heroic Inspiration*

Prima Cleonei tolerata (Hexameter from the *Carmina Burana* ms., early 13th century)

Bella bis quinis (text by Boethius, from the *Cambridge Songs*, early 11th century)

Olim sudor Herculis (Pierre de Blois [d.1212], from *The Later Cambridge Songs*, 13th century)

This concert is sponsored, in part, by Nancy Hager.

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Please note that photography and the use of recording devices are not permitted.  
Remember to turn off your cellphone.



Council on  
the Arts

Corpus Christi Church  
4 p.m. Sunday, April 30, 2017